LEVEL ONE

whole Earth newsletter

United Church Board for World Ministries Summer 1995, Vol. XXV, No. 1

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Joint appointments total 28

Twenty-eight recently appointed missionaries are or will shortly be serving in 15 overseas locations. Of the total, 10 are connected with seminary/religious institutions, six with teaching and four with medical/health related organizations.

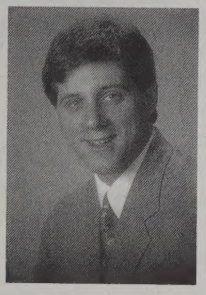
All personnel were appointed jointly by the UCBWM and the Division of Overseas Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Andrea Cano, who recently completed over three years as a communications consultant with the Latin American Council of Churches in Ecuador, will serve three more years in México as program coordinator for the Alberto Rembao Center. While in Ecuador she saw her role as a "conciliator among emerging Protestant streams and a mediator with the Catholic Church." The Latin American experience "cannot be homogenized," she said. "Each country has its own history, including the history of the churches, and great tension among the churches."

The Latin American experience "cannot be homogenized." — Cano

The Rembao Center deals with border issues and leadership development on both sides, and is jointly sponsored by the UCC's Hispanic Ministries in the Southwest U.S. and the Congregational Church in México.

Her new assignment, which begins Aug. 1, will involve making important linkages between México and the North, examining the implications of NAFTA and other internal issues, and how the Protestant church is faring. Cano is a member of Broadway UCC, New York, NY.



Janice and Roger Burns-Watson began teaching religion at Rabate Teachers College in Kenya on June 1 at the invitation of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa. "My faith is based on the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the hope that life doesn't have to be as it is for too many people," said Janice.

" . . . to see faith through different eyes." — Burns-Watson

Roger feels God is "calling us to mission overseas in order to see faith through different eyes." He is a member of Fairview Christian Church, Gladstone, MO, while Janice maintains membership at Erlanger Christian Church, Erlanger, KY. Their appointment is for three years.

A public administrator from Rutland,

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UCBWM supports Hawaiian redress

The United Church Board for World Ministries has voted to participate with the UCC in supporting a process of redress and reconciliation with *na Kanaka Maoli* (indigenous Hawaiian) people.

The Directorate of the UCBWM, as well as that of the UC Board for Homeland Ministries, have now both pledged financial and other support toward establishing a foundation to help indigenous Hawaiians work toward self-determination and justice.

In an action described by one Board member as "appropriate, painful and correct," the UCBWM voted to commit—over a period of five years—$750,000 toward the foundation, which is to be defined and governed by *na Kanaka Maoli* in their search for self-determination through activities such as

- Hawaiian historical and cultural education;
- community (grassroots) organizing;
- advocacy for justice; and
- leadership development.

These kinds of activities are mission forms historically given priority by the UCBWM.

This year marks the 175th anniversary of the arrival of the first missionaries to Hawaii sent by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM), a UCBWM predecessor. As UCC President Paul Sherry noted in his apology to the *na Kanaka Maoli* on Jan. 17, 1993, "These women and men, often at great personal sacrifice, witnessed to the Gospel in compelling ways. Their lives of Christian commitment and generosity are an inspiration, and their contributions endure."

"This action by the Board of Directors does not negate the commitment, sacrifice, motivation and work that ABCFM missionaries did in Hawaii," said David Hirano, UCBWM executive vice president. "The redress is being made because

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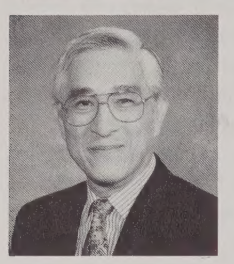
Message from the EVP



Freeing the human spirit

By David Hirano

This message may reach you during General Synod. The UCBWM will sponsor a dinner at GS-20 in which the Pacific Rim will be lifted up. The Rev. Masalosalo Sotoaga, chairperson for the Pacific Conference of Churches, will be the speaker.

At this dinner the Common Global Ministries Board will be celebrated. In one of its plenary sessions, Synod will formalize a partnership with the Korean Christian Church in Japan, and will reaffirm a partnership with the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. It will be a great time.

My editorial in the last issue of *Whole Earth Newsletter* dealt with the issue of the decolonization of the mind. I've had a number of reactions about it. Some people have affirmed my thinking while others have been severely critical. I wanted to follow up in this issue.

I chose the word "mind" because Westerners deal more easily with the mind than the soul. I think, however, that the word "soul" is more accurate. The Rev. Kekapa Lee, a Native Hawaiian pastor, has said that we need to decolonize the soul. I agree.

"Colonization divides people, feeds on the work of people and saps the energy and spirit out of people . . . " is how I described what colonialism does. To some degree, I write as one who has been colonized. In my colonization I was taught that my race was not right. I felt that I was a second-class citizen. It took years to come to the place where I could affirm who I was and what I was. The brand of Christianity which I learned early in life contributed to my colonization. The Christianity which I now embrace has helped set me free.

To decolonize the soul, one needs to touch and to be touched by the Spirit of God. When we touch and are touched by the Spirit of God, the human spirit is freed. It is because the Spirit touched me and said "You are worthy" that I felt worthy. It was when the Spirit touched me and said "God loves you in spite of what you are" that I was liberated. When the human spirit is freed, the soul becomes decolonized.

That's a task for us as we come upon the new century. Ours is to work with God so that the souls of people will be free. It is not easy. The way is not well charted. But the way of Jesus is a way of faith, and faith enables us to touch and be touched by the Spirit in ways that set us free.

"Feed my sheep"

"John 21 states our mandate: 'Feed my sheep.' That's quite direct, and there are layers and layers of meaning. We actually do keep sheep and feed them at the Asian Rural Institute. We also feed each other, the human flock. We teach food production, too, to help people return to their countries to produce food. So that's three layers of meaning.

"Jesus meant more, but the rest is not so clear. What else are we to feed, and to whom? Love, compassion, justice, peace, and confidence, skills, and tools of working together in community. Not so easy to measure. . . . How do we know when hearts are being filled with what they need?

"But the sheep are feeding me, too. Who are the shepherds, and who are the sheep? We feel that we receive more than we give. It's so interesting the way God works—we minister to each other. We have clear marching orders: 'Feed my sheep.' There is always some level we can do that on any given day."

— From a meditation by returning missionary to Japan Barbara L. Mueller, during the joint May meeting of the mission arm directorates of the Disciples and the UCC.

(See related missionary story which begins on page one.)

Goba elected to head UCCSA

Bonganjalo Goba, former regional secretary for the UCBWM's Africa Office from 1988 to 1992, was recently elected by the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa (UCCSA) to the highest position in that denomination, that of chairperson. The UCCSA is a partner denomination with the Disciples and the UCC.

Dr. Goba also recently resigned as Dean of the Faculty of Theology at the University of Durban, Westville, to take a more active position with the Institute for Multi-Party Democracy (IMPD). The IMPD is a non-governmental body founded to promote democracy in all its forms. He had been an associate member, and is now working for the Institute full time. Goba was one of the architects of South Africa's Kairos Document. The UCCSA was one of the few churches which not only regarded it as a serious theological tool to combat apartheid, but set up a task force to review and transform the structures and ministries of the church in light of the Kairos challenge.

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Around the Region: Latin America & the Caribbean

The *real* challenge: reaffirming prophetic commitment

By the Rev. David Vargas, Area Executive, Common Ministry in Latin America and the Caribbean

In July 1995 the Common Ministry in Latin America and the Caribbean entered its sixth year as a joint endeavor of the United Church Board for World Ministries and the Disciples' Division of Overseas Ministries, although both boards have been engaged in missionary activities in the region for more than a century.

In recent years, international news reports about Latin America and the Caribbean have focused on three major developments: the end of war in Central America, the celebration of democratic elections in various countries, and the establishment of free trade agreements throughout the region. These accomplishments have been given so much importance that, as a result, many foreign development/relief agencies (including church-related organizations committed to the struggle against poverty, oppression and the violation of human rights) have been diminishing their involvement on the assumption that the roots to the most critical problems are already disappearing. But in reality, what might appear to be good news has actually turned out to be misleading.

Argentina's military regime of Roberto Viola, Leopoldo Galtieri and others is gone, but the economic debacle they left and the scars of their atrocities against an entire population—including the disappearance of approximately 30,000 persons—are still present.

Alfredo Stroessner is no longer the great boss and owner of Paraguay—but the country continues to be ruled by an elite, the Guarani-descended peasants do not yet have access to the land, and tuberculosis and other serious (but controllable) diseases are still a major cause of death.

The Sandinistas in Nicaragua were defeated in 1990, and in 1992 a Peace Accord was signed by the Farabundo Marti Liberation Front in El Salvador, but the conditions of life that caused the revolutions in these nations remain intact: extreme poverty, poor health services, illiteracy, most of the productive land in the hands of a few, and political violence.

More recently, President Aristide has returned to Port-au-Prince with the assistance of an international military intervention, but the Haitian people are still the poorest of the poor . . . and losing their hope by the minute.

These are just a few examples where the new democratic experiments and exercises have not necessarily resulted in an immediate achievement of true peace with justice. The same may be said about Chile, Guatemala, Honduras, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic and other countries in which free elections have had nothing to do with the eradication of misery and of sub-human conditions of life.

One of the greatest challenges Disciples and UCC churches in the North face on the eve of the 21st century is to avoid being mislead by the illusion caused by the so-called recovery of democracy in the region. The real challenge is to reaffirm the church's prophetic commitment to seek true peace with justice, beyond the illusory scenery that has been fabricated by the media and the neo-liberal propaganda.

Indeed, this new day in the life of Latin America and the Caribbean has motivated the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S. Latin America Office to convene a consultation on missiology at the end of 1996. This event—to be held on the 80th anniversary of the Panama Missionary Congress—will provide an opportunity to evaluate missionary presence and witness in the region, and to make projections for the next century.

As stated in its theological declaration, the UCC/Disciples' Common Ministry affirms that, "in order to be relevant in the Third World, missionary and ecumenical projects must include the poor as a priority. The preferential option for the poor is not an 'extra' for the church, but rather an indispensable requirement."

Since 1989 Vargas has headed the Common Ministry program of the UCC and the Disciples, responsible for linkages of both denominations with Latin America/Caribbean churches and ecumenical organizations. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico, vice chair of the NCCC's Caribbean/Latin America Committee, and also serves the NCCC's Commission on Justice and Liberation. The Common Ministry relates to more than 60 partners in 19 countries. Currently, 28 missionaries and volunteers minister in the region. For further information contact Vargas c/o the Common Ministry at P.O. Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

Disaster response

One Great Hour of Sharing receipts and special gifts have made possible the following disaster aid since January 1, 1995. (Figures in bold are disbursed from **OGHS** monies; the others are distributed from directed funds.)

Africa region

- **$2,000**, Church World Service (CWS), for civil strife in Liberia
- $100,000, CWS for victims of Rwanda civil strife

East Asia/Pacific region

- **$15,000**, Japan-North American Commission on Cooperative Mission (JANAC), for earthquake aid to the Kyodan, our partner church in Japan
- **$10,000**, JANAC for earthquake aid to the Korean Christian Church in Japan
- **$2,000**, CWS, for victims of Japan earthquake
- **$2,000**, United Church of Christ in the Philippines, retaining wall materials on grounds of the Northwest Conference, Northern Luzon Jurisdiction
- **$15,000**, JANAC, for post-earthquake repairs to Kobe College, Japan

Europe region

- **$15,000**, CWS, for victims of the Chechnya disaster
- $1,050, CWS, for solidarity with

(continued on page 4)

Countries recall 50th anniversaries

Recent months in both Europe and North America have been occasions of remembering 50th anniversaries—especially the collapse of Nazi Germany and the Allies' victory in Europe. While it is common practice in the United States, remembering history and observing anniversaries receives much greater emphasis in Europe.

As a matter of fact, observed Joint Ministry in Europe area executive Kenneth Ziebell at the UCBWM Board of Directors meeting in May, Europeans "sometimes seem obsessed with anniversaries. So besides remembering the events of May 1945, there has been a constant stream of 50th anniversary observances through this year as one event of 1945 after another is widely remembered."

May 1945 has a "somewhat different significance" for peoples of the former U.S.S.R., Ziebell noted. "And Germans are still not certain whether to remember it as a day of liberation or a day of defeat."

Observances have also been emphasized by our partner churches. "What may be most important and interesting for us is the choice of which anniversaries they selected to remember and what that selection reveals about their priorities for understanding the present and the future," he said.

Some of the anniversaries other than May which Ziebell reported on include—

► In Germany and also in Britain, the fire bombing of Dresden by the Allies on Feb. 13, 1945, made that date an occasion for strong emphasis on reconciliation between former enemies. A special relationship exists between the people and churches of Dresden, Germany, and Coventry—an English city also devastated by German bombs.

► On Oct. 22 German churches will commemorate the "Stuttgart Declaration of Guilt," a statement issued on that date in 1945 in which the German churches formally confessed their share of responsibility for what happened under Nazi rule. This declaration provided the basis for the ecumenical movement to again receive German churches into worldwide fellowship.

► Our Italian partner the Waldensian Church in Italy focuses on two 50th anniversary observances: the final liberation of Italy from Fascist control on April 12, 1945, and—interestingly enough—the execution of German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer on April 9, 1945, in the Flossenburg concentration camp just a few days before the camp was liberated.

Church/state issues in the former Communist nations of Europe are one of many topics covered in Remembering the Future, *a new Friendship Press study resource on Europe.* *(Related story p. 7.)*

The Bonhoeffer event is, of course, remembered in Germany and other countries, but is given great emphasis by the Waldensians. This is because they see both the liberation and the Bonhoeffer execution as symbols of "the twin emphases at the basis of their understanding of Christian faith: the liberation day as the symbol of freedom, release from oppression; and Bonhoeffer as the symbol of responsibility, his execution resulting from a faith commitment which involved him personally in the dirty business of working to overthrow an evil government. 'Freedom for responsibility' is the theme of the Waldensian understanding of Christian life—either of these characteristics without the other is seriously incomplete," Ziebell explained.

►Also having a 50th anniversary this year is the United Nations. A resolution affirming the work of the UN and calling churches to a recommitment of support for the UN's peace agenda and its social justice and economic development work was up for adoption at the 20th General Synod (see page 8 for further details on the UN anniversary).

Disaster response

(continued from page 3)

women in the former Yugoslavia

Latin America/Caribbean region

- **$3,000**, CWS, for Cuba humanitarian aid
- **$6,000**, CWS, for victims of Ecuador/Peru border dispute
- **$1,500**, CWS, for Mexico indigenous displaced persons
- **$2,000**, CWS, Argentina floods

Middle East region

- $4,565, CWS, Middle East Office for Gulf War relief in Iraq

Southern Asia region

- **$5,000**, CWS, to help refugees attempting to resettle in Cambodia after being displaced by the Pol Pot regime in 1991
- **$5,000**, CWS, Sri Lanka ethnic conflict
- **$5,000**, CWS, to aid ethnic minority refugees from Burma in Thailand

Disaster training

- **$632**, CWS, disaster consultant expenses
- **$432**, Central Pacific Conference UCC, for staff travel to disaster meeting

U.S. flood relief

- $15,000, Southern California Conference UCC, flood survivors
- **$5,000**, Southern California Conference UCC, flood survivors
- $15,000, Northern California/Nevada Conference UCC, flood survivors
- **$5,000**, Northern California/Nevada Conference UCC, flood survivors
- **$2,000**, CWS, California flooding
- **$10,000**, Illinois South Conference UCC, continued aid for 1993 Midwest floods
- $30,000, Wisconsin Conference UCC,

(continued on page 12)

Anniversaries. . .

► The year 1995 also marks the 200th anniversary of the establishment in Britain of the London Missionary Society, recently succeeded by the Council for World Mission, which links 28 member churches in the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, Asia and the Pacific in an innovative common approach to global mission. Both DOM President Patricia Tucker Spier and David Hirano, UCBWM executive vice president, will attend the celebration of this anniversary in July in London.

How We See It From Here

***Barbara de Souza** works for Project SOFIA of the Institute of Religious Studies (ISER) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, as an advisor in the areas of women's health and sexuality. She represented ISER at last year's Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, Egypt. The following was excerpted from her report on that gathering.*

Brazil does not have an overpopulation problem. It has 150 million people in a country the size of the U.S. Compare it with the 250 million of the U.S! Brazil's problem is the unjust distribution of wealth and power between the affluent few and the numerous poor (about 8 to 10% control 80% of the wealth!). There is desperate need for complete agrarian reform, for it is the lack of this which—among other things—has caused mass migration to cities such as Sao Paulo (where Barbara worked for 20 years).

One of the factors which makes the Brazilian women's position so important in the analysis of population and development is the high rate of maternal and infant mortality. These are figures I heard quoted at the Conference, which were shocking even to me: in the First World, one in 10,000 women die as a result of pregnancy, birth or abortion and their consequences. In the Third World the figure is 1 in 20!

One Brazilian said, "We resent any program of birth control by the First World, mostly the U.S. Why don't they control their own population and consumption?" As was brought out at the Conference, the consumption of one American family of four would supply 10 or more Brazilian families extremely well.

For this and other tragic reasons, a generation's existence is being threatened. The Brazilian population rate has fallen dramatically in the last 20-plus years. Thus, as the Brazilian women at the Conference made clear, "We do not want to be pointed out for the First World's programs for population control or, in reality, population reduction!"

In the May 1995 issue of **JSIR (Bridge),** *a publication on Christian-Muslim relations, Middle East executive Dale Bishop writes of various experts and shapers of public opinion who are eager to point fingers at Middle Eastern Muslims for disasters like the Oklahoma City bombing. Bishop even admits that he himself was at first convinced that the terrorists were Middle Eastern in origin. The Murrah building after the bombing looked eerily like the destroyed American Embassy in Beirut, he wrote.*

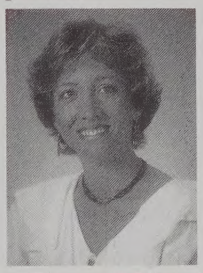
I have reflected on those ruins in Lebanon since I began visiting that country since 1980, well into the Lebanese Civil War. What could motivate such murderous behavior? The origins of these ruins are as varied as the Lebanese people themselves, not to mention their neighbors in the mosaic called the Middle East. There are Palestinian ruins, Christian ruins, Muslim ruins, Druze ruins, Syrian, Iraq . . . and on and on. Some were the products of furious desperation, as any visitor to a Palestinian refugee camp or a Shi'ite slum could attest. Others were the product of fevered ideology; still others were inflicted out of revenge, or paradoxically, out of a misguided notion of what it takes to survive in a changing world.

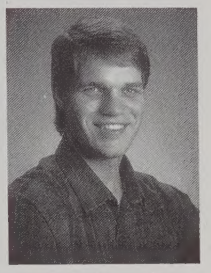
" . . . the impulse to create havoc and human suffering is a remarkably ecumenical one."

What I have learned from my reflections, a lesson that has been only reinforced by what we now know about the Oklahoma bombing, is that the impulse to create havoc and human suffering is a remarkably ecumenical one. No one religious tradition or ethnic group can claim a monopoly on it; none is immune from its temptations.

Which should be a lesson for those who would base a foreign policy, or gain notoriety on the TV news, on the basis of a presumed inherent evil of the other. The experts who tried and convicted Middle Eastern Muslims before the dust had settled in Oklahoma must now look within. "Them" may be us.

***Ellen and Andy Collins** are serving the United Mission to Nepal. In a recent letter Ellen, a consultant for community development and health projects, writes about debunking myths surrounding disabled Nepali children at a workshop for parents.*





They trickled in—uncertain, shy—bringing their children with them. An older man carried his teenage daughter, who cannot use her legs and has no wheelchair; a mother brought her mentally impaired son who had never been out of the house and was terrified. Altogether 13 families came, many of them meeting for the first time other parents who endure the same struggle of raising a mentally or physically disabled child. The notion of "support groups" as we know them is a foreign idea in Nepal, and yet this is exactly what grew out of the workshop.

After introductions, sharing and stories, one mother stood up to begin and then burst into tears, saying that no one had ever wanted to hear her point of view. She had been blamed for her son's stunted growth and crippled legs, saying an evil spirit had entered her when she was pregnant. That day I learned of the many Nepali beliefs and superstitions associated with mental illness and disabilities, and the parents learned about some of the physiological causes of these conditions. They also learned how to help their children learn and grow—by playing!

Toys are not a common sight in Nepal. The concept of using toys for education and therapy is even less common. Those bright-colored blocks, puzzles and rocking horse brought smiles to every face in the room, and before long we had parents, kids and staff playing together delightfully!

We've begun collecting toys for a toy library. Our goal is to lift up their lives and let them know we accept them as they are, just as Christ accepts all of us.

CHRONICLE

REVISED APPOINTMENT

Carmen Samuels, from director of a nursing school in Zimbabwe to a two-year term with the Private Health Association of Lesotho at the St. Joseph School of Nursing, Roma Hospital.

HOME ASSIGNMENT

Ron Fujiyoshi, Pacific Rim (Honolulu), six months beginning July 1, 1995.

LOSSES TO THE FAMILY

Charles T. Bonos Jr., former UCBWM Corporate Member and the first chairperson of the UCBWM's Finance and Investment Committee, died Feb. 20, 1995. He practiced law in Philadelphia, specializing in estate and trust law. In his early years he was active with a UCBWM predecessor, the Board of International Missions (BIM), which was headquartered in Philadelphia. He was also instrumental in drafting some of the legal documents used in the merger between BIM and the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, another UCBWM predecessor. His funeral was held Feb. 23 at Glenside UCC, Glenside, PA.

Charles G. Chakerian, former volunteer missionary to Taiwan from 1976 to 1984, died in March 1994 at the age of 90. He taught at Tunghai University and Tainan Theological College and Seminary. He also taught at Hartford and McCormick Seminaries. He and his wife Juanita Randolph Chakerian lived in Walnut Creek, CA, until his death.

Theodore Essebaggers, 92, who was nationally known in the Church of North India for his successful programs of stewardship and who served 35 years in central India, died March 5 in Connecticut. In his early years he also served several years in Iraq, and later assisted in stewardship programs in Indonesia and Honduras. As a district minister in India he was well acquainted with the problems of the rural church in what is now known as Madhya Pradesh, and he was co-founder of the Gass Memorial Center in Raipur. His first wife, Helen, died in 1963. He is survived by his second wife Doris, of Canton, CT, and four children.

Gladys and Harold Eymann, who served 10 years in the Philippines, died within one month of each other—he on Dec. 3 and she on Dec. 20, 1994. They were missionaries from 1961 to 1971.

Yoshio Fukuyama, 73, who served four years in Turkey in the 1940's, died April 3 while visiting in Kyoto, Japan. He served as an educational missionary at the Talas Boys School. He was also a contributor to research underlying the formation of the UCC, and had served as a corporate member and director of research for the UC Board for Homeland Ministries.

Zola Dell Gass, longtime missionary to India and mother of UCBWM Southern Asia area executive Eric Gass, died on April 28. Along with her husband, Dr. Herbert H. Gass, she served in Baitalpur, Vellore and Karigiri, India, from 1931 to 1964.

Helen Glessner, 92, who spent 30 years in Iraq, died April 29 in Wyncote, PA. She and her late husband Jefferson began service in Iraq in 1928 in Mosul, also serving in Baghdad and Kirkuk. She is survived by two daughters and a son.

Elsa Feichtinger Keene, 90, died Sept. 15, 1994. She had served 17 years in Turkey—in Constaple, Smyrna and at the American Collegiate Institute in Izmir. She is survived by her husband J. Calvin Keene and her children Lenore Congden, James Keene and Jean Smith, who also served in the Middle East.

Edna Ulstrup Lowe, 63, died Aug. 12, 1994. She had served six years in Zimbabwe with her husband John R.W. Lowe, who still resides there. She served as principal and taught general science at Chikore Secondary School. She is also survived by three children, Lynette, David and Colleen.

Emil Wolfgang Menzel Sr., who served from 1925 to 1958 in India, died Jan. 12 in Waverly, OH, at the age of 97. He was superintendent of about 40 schools in India for the American Evangelical Mission, wrote a large number of books and pamphlets about education in India, and was field editor for Frank C. Laubach's book *India Shall Be Literate*. He is survived by four sons.

Willie Mae Simpson, 54, receptionist at the UCBWM Office in New York, died Jan. 5 after a struggle with cancer. She had been with the Board for 16 years. She is survived by husband Richard and daughters Pamela, Patricia and Swanzetta.

Louise Fleming Torrence, 93, died Feb. 18 at Pilgrim Place, Claremont, CA. She had spent 40 years of service in Rhodesia, teaching domestic science at Mt. Silinda and Chikore Primary School. She also organized cottage industries and handicrafts for women.

Ruth V. Washburn, who spent four years in Izmir, Turkey in dormitory supervisory work for the Near East Mission, died March 17. She was 92.

GIFTS RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF

Helen S. Brown
Pastor
Richard C. Brown
Pastor
Cannon Guy
Russell Frazier
Margaret Abraham Carlson
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne G. Abraham
Theodore Essebaggers
Carolyn Arias

Correction

In the Winter 1995 issue of *Whole Earth Newsletter*, in a story about overseas personnel appointments, it was incorrectly reported that Casilda Luzares, returning missionary to Japan, said the Japanese symbol for woman means "not yet a person." The error resulted from a misunderstanding in transcribing notes from her presentation to the Board of Directors. What Luzares actually said was that the kanji for widow literally reads "not-yet-dead-person."

Late issue

Due to illness this issue of ***Whole Earth Newsletter*** is being mailed to readers about six weeks later than normal.

Chronicle...

Rev. & Mrs. Otto Artopeous
Mrs. William T. Baur
Kathleen E. Beyer
Betty J. Blink
Pastor
Helen M. Davis
Harold & Catherine Essebaggers
Ernest & Donna Essebaggers
Nora C. Ferrari
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Friedler
Ziff-Davis Publishing Company
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Ruth Hofsteter
Pastor
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel D. Johnson
Florence Kramer
Ethel R. Larkin
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Mary K. Morris
Christine H. Power
Marie Jane Riccio
Homer K. Shafer
Hazel R. Shannon

Mrs. Howard Ferguson
Anne F. Johnson

Catherine Kingdon
Baxter Healthcar Corporation
Mr. & Mrs. William D. Johnston

Rilda Marsh
Waneta & Dalton Smith

Emil W. Menzel
Ruth L. Albrecht
Rev. & Mrs. Otto Artopeous
Mrs. William T. Baur

Willie Mae Simpson
Dr. & Mrs. Telfer Mook

J. Gordon Todd
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne G. Abraham

Louise F. Torrence
Lavinia Scott

Ralph F. Tuller
Alison B. Brotman
Elizabeth Casseri

James Withuhn
Faith N. Noble

"Token of faithfulness"

Armenian chalice presented by Board

A moving event came at the closing worship of the UCBWM Board of Directors meeting in May, when representatives of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) received the gift of a chalice which had been used by Armenian congregants in the Middle East during the 19th century. The chalice was found in the attic of the Bible House in Istanbul, Turkey.

"This is a token of your faithfulness in the midst of adversity, in the midst of trial, in the midst of pain. It is a symbol of our admiration of you and gratitude for you, and comes with the wish and hope and prayer that we will continue to be faithful to the One who is always faithful to us," said the Rev. David Hirano, UCBWM Executive Vice President.

In return the AMAA gave the UCBWM a beautiful khachkar (carved cross). The exchange celebrated an action taken in November to establish an advisory committee made up of members of the AMAA and the UCBWM to determine the future distribution of income from the John B. Donchian Fund to or for the benefit of Armenians from the areas stipulated in Donchian's will, wherever they may be currently located.

In drinking from the chalice during eucharist, said Middle East area executive Dale Bishop, communicants were "reunited with a part of our history, replete with suffering and the failure of our own and the world's moral conscience. But in remembering, we are shown a new and better way, a new life of love and ultimate freedom. When you drink of it, think of Him, and think of them. For at this blessed moment the truth is claimed, history is sanctified, new life is discovered."

David Hirano (l) presents the silver chalice to representatives of the Armenian Missionary Association of America Albert Momjian and the Rev. Movses Janbazian (r) during a UCBWM worship service.

Marquitos: the Honduran miracle child

By the Rev. Linda Petrucelli, Secretary, Office for the Global Sharing of Resources

Last December the Nutrition Center in Pinalejo, Honduras, was brightly decorated for the Mothers Club annual Christmas party. There was a tree with ornaments, poinsettias and carefully wrapped gifts.

One woman described how she and her two children had walked four hours before hitching a ride in the back of a pick-up truck to get there. Most of the other women came similar distances—a few all the way from the Honduras-Guatemala border. Their tiring journeys seemed forgotten as their children laughed and played games, and as the mothers—two representatives each from eight villages—sang songs celebrating the birth of Jesus.

The women smiled as they thought about the fact that they, too, had a *miracle child* in their midst. They called into the Center's tiny kitchen where a Mrs. Santos was busy preparing drinks for the party. She came outside holding the hand of her 8-year-old son, Marquitos. "When Marquitos was 18 months he weighed less than 10 pounds," she explained. "I took him to a hospital, but they told me there was nothing they could do." Then she took him to the Nutrition Center run by the Association of Evangelical Institutions of Honduras (AIEH, the development arm of our partner, the Evangelical and Reformed Church in Honduras).

The development programs of AIEH—which include social, medical and building projects—are supported in part by gifts from One Great Hour of Sharing.

"Marquitos was so sick I thought he was going to die," Mrs. Santos said. "But the people here at the Nutrition Center saved his life." Center staff provided her with critically needed food and taught her how to enrich Marquitos' diet with fruit, vegetables, eggs and butter. While Marquitos is the most dramatic example of the Nutrition Center's success, it currently helps support 540 malnourished children. In addition, Center staff have organized women into Mothers Clubs in eight villages. The women introduce nutritional information and programs to their communities.

Marquitos and Mrs. Santos

In parts of rural Honduras malnutrition is one of the most crippling indignities caused by poverty and underdevelopment. Malnourished children are subject to severe forms of upper respiratory and intestinal ailments. But through the commitment and leadership of Honduran women, local solutions to hunger are discovered and shared.

The Mothers Clubs have encouraged and introduced new foods such as soy milk and soy sausages to provide an in-

(continued on page 12)

Faith in Action

"Let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." —I John 3:18

The UCC Statement on Population and Sustainable Development had an unanticipated impact on a diverse audience at a seminar on religious education and the environment last year in Istanbul, Turkey.

Although he said the topic was not his area of expertise, UCBWM missionary Alan McCain agreed to make a brief presentation. Attendees came from many disciplines from all Christian church families and many nations. Due to the seminar location most participants happened to be Orthodox Christians, but the religious diversity was wide-ranging.

"(The UCC Statement on Population and Development) was the only paper to raise women's issues as of any central significance to the environment."

During the nine-day seminar, which included presenters from all over the world and dozens of points of view, McCain reported that the UCBWM Statement was the only paper to raise women's issues as being of any central significance to the environment. "The reaction I got was mixed but not unwelcome," McCain said.

The reaction also included "an appreciation of the side-by-side pairing of *consumption by the wealthy with population growth among the poor*, and this was felt to be a useful insight."

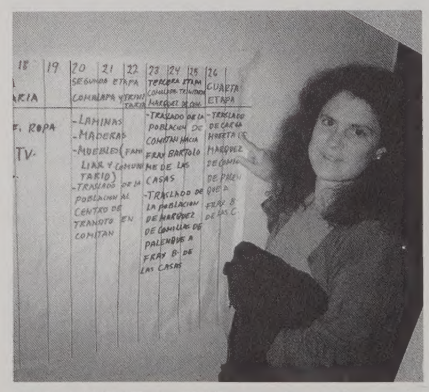
McCain said the UCC document was also useful because "it raised so clearly the need for *politically responsible action;* this is not something that comes easily to Orthodoxy at the moment, and there was a spirited discussion about the appropriateness of the church's involvement in the political sphere. . . . "

While "what we say and do in the UCC is predicated on and circumscribed by an awareness of our sexuality," McCain said, "vast traditions in the Church of Jesus Christ still posit human sexuality as essentially, and indeed originally, sinful. Orthodoxy especially venerates its ascetics and celebrates the learnings to be gleaned from the monastic, self-denying life. The right to pursue happiness is foreign to the Orthodox tradition, which rather resonates with the notion of human duty—"to praise God and glorify His name forever."

The Orthodox Church teaches that the world, created out of nothing, is by its very nature fragile, and can be (through human sinfulness) destroyed. It also teaches that the world has been entrusted by God to human beings whose duty it is to hold it up into the very life of God—a priestly function which provides the link between God and the world.

Opportunities

- There are last-minute openings for a travel seminar on "Mexico: Poor, Yet Making Many Rich," Aug. 7-14. The seminar is specifically planned to help celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the UCC's Hunger Action Office. For further information contact the Center for Global Education at Augsburg College, at 612/330-1159.
- Former UCBWM missionary to Ghana Henry Diehl will be leading a 21-day trip to China from Sept. 28 to Oct. 18, to visit Chinese Christians at various points of interest, including Beijing, Chengdu and Nanjing. For further information contact Diehl at 419/784-0659.



***PAULA BIDLE** is a UCC pastor involved in a ministry of solidarity with Guatemalan refugees in México who are making plans to return to Guatemala. Since 1993 more than 75,000 Guatemalans have returned to their home country even though peace has not been achieved. Serving returnees in Guatemala in a ministry of accompaniment is Linda McCrae, a Disciples pastor. (UCBWM/DOM staff photo by Mary Kuenning Gross)*

50 Years is Enough! campaign resources

"And you shall hallow the 50th year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee year for you." — Leviticus 25:10

■ **Partnership, Global Economics and an Ethical/Christian Response to Debt, the IMF and the World Bank,** 30+ pages by Erich Mathias of the Joint Ministry in Africa (JMA) Office: This new resource is an introduction to a theology of partnership and the critical challenges that overseas partners raise regarding economic justice. Practical ways in which people of faith can respond. Can be used for group discussion or as a course guide. Available for $2.50 from the Africa Office, 475 Riverside Dr., 16th Fl., New York, NY 10115-0109.

■ **Banking on Life and Debt,** a 30-min. video narrated by Martin Sheen, talks about how the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund affect world poverty. Available from Maryknoll World Productions, Dept. JP, P.O. Box 308, Maryknoll, NY 10545, at $14.95 plus shipping. Call toll-free, 1-800/227-8523.

■ **Jubilee Resource Packet** by the Religious Working Group on the World Bank and the IMF, with ritual celebrations, sermon ideas, group exercises, media ideas, action suggestions to further a new vision of economic justice. From the UCC Global Education & Advocacy (GE&A) Office, 700 Prospect Ave., 6th Fl., Cleveland, OH 44115, $6 postpaid. Phone orders 216/736-3214 or FAX 216/736-3259.

■ **Gender Statement.** In its platform the 50 Years campaign highlights the importance of including women as equal partners in decision making, structuring economic policies to address women's priorities, needs and roles. Free from GE&A Office above.

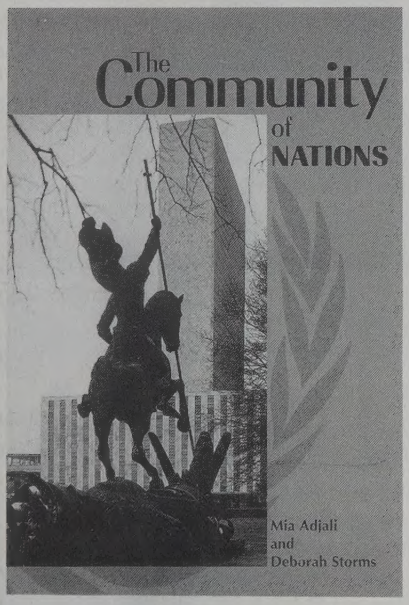
■ **Call for Jubilee: Days of Action and Presence.** Organizer's packet for activities around the upcoming annual meeting of the World Bank and the IMF on October 9. Available for nominal charge from Maryknoll's Justice & Peace Office, P.O. Box 29132, Washington, D.C. 20017.

NEW RESOURCES: Europe and the United Nations; the Middle East — *Letters from Palestine*

From Friendship Press . . .

"We need to recognize that for most people in the world, their basic goal is to have a decent standard of living for themselves and their children and to enjoy it in a framework of peace. The UN is uniquely able to deliver those things."

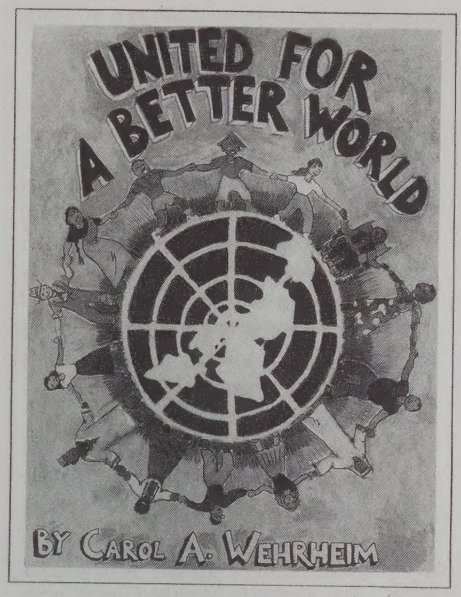
This quote is from a new Friendship Press study resource on the United Nations, titled *The Community of Nations*. It marks the 50th anniversary of the UN coming up this October. Writers from all corners of the globe reflect on the UN's original mission/principles, examine successes/failures, and evaluate its future potential.



The accompanying study guide leads participants in a process for working through churches and other non-governmental organizations to influence UN decisions. Worship ideas and songs, resource listings and video ideas are included.

United for a Better World, illustrated by former UCBWM missionary Gary Hoff, is a full-color magazine with activities to encourage children to learn about the UN and some of its roles, especially peacekeeping.

The other new Friendship Press study resource is on Europe. In the book *Remembering the Future: The Challenge of the Churches in Europe*, writers from all parts of Europe illuminate subjects such as the complex ethno-religious conflict in the Balkans, signs of hope in Northern Ireland, and reflections on church-state issues in the former Communist nations.



The leader's guide uses the book, along with the video *Is Europe Still Christian?* and the new *Map 'n' Facts: Europe* (co-edited by Joint Ministry in Europe area executive Kenneth Ziebell). Using photos from deep space and computer technology, the map shows the topography of the region and includes information on ecumenical relationships in Europe and milestones of European and church history.

Also available is *The Spring of Nations: Churches in the Rebirth of Central and Eastern Europe*, by UCC clergyman and missionary J. Martin Bailey, former director of communications of the National Council of Churches. This book is of great value in understanding the new situation in eastern Europe.

From the Middle East Office . . .

Letters from Palestine, E-mail excerpts in an age of uncertainty, a book by missionary husband/wife team Linda Ammons and John Worrell, documents the early days of the 1993 peace accords between Israel and the PLO, as well as the truth of the adage that the more things change, the more they remain the same.

The 116-page paperback expresses qualities notably absent in the evening news report—such as a sense of context that only "living there" can provide, or commitment to those on the underside of history. Most are personal observations and reflections of Worrell and Ammons, unashamedly espousing the cause of the occupied people whom the Joint Ministry in the Middle East of the Disciples and the UCC appointed them to serve.

"In their letters," writes Joint Ministry executive Dale Bishop in the preface, "John and Linda tell us about the lives of people they have met and come to know: a group of bedouin being pushed off their land by the relentless expansion of an Israeli settlement; a little boy who finds the body of a dead soldier; villagers experimenting with nonviolent resistance; students whose studies are interrupted by the tumultuous events around them. In recording these experiences, they are adding to the rich legacy of missionary historical writing, of living with people and faithfully telling us about their lives," states Middle East area executive Dale Bishop.

The book is available from the Middle East Office, 475 Riverside Dr., 16th Fl., New York, NY 10115-0109, at $4 each postpaid.

From the Joint Ministry in Europe Office . . .

An audio tape concerning our work in Europe, **"Sharing Global Ministries: Voices from Europe,"** is now available for use in Disciples and UCC congregations. Features phone interviews with UCBWM/DOM mission personnel, speaking about some issues and problems which confront our partners in Europe. The tape is available for borrowing from the Mission Education & Interpretation Office, 700 Prospect Ave., 6th Floor, Cleveland, OH 44115.

From the NCCC . . .

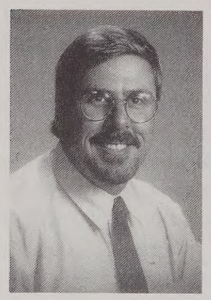
Beyond Borders: Global Learning & the Churches, is a 16-minute video by the National Council of Churches' Office on Global Education which invites viewers to join an international community of people who struggle with global peace and justice issues. The video is based on a 1992 gathering of educators from 19 nations.

Order at $15 postpaid from Church World Service, P.O. Box 968, Elkhart, IN 46515.

New appointments

(continued from page 1)

VT, will teach English in China through the Amity Foundation. When asked "Why China?" **William Holland** replied the answer was "God's leading; little logic and reasoning." He said he'd asked



"God's leading; little logic and reasoning." — Holland

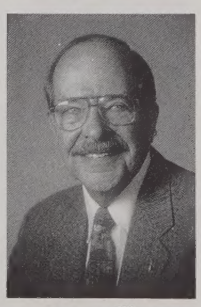
God what to do with his life, and the answer came through a variety of contacts—especially David Dean, pastor of Grace Congregational UCC, Rutland (Holland's home church).

Kate Goodspeed, a former member of the UCBWM Board of Directors who also taught English through Amity from 1992-94, returned to China July 1 for a three-year term as a consultant/advisor to Amity's English Teachers Program. She will also be involved in teaching.

" . . . accompanying other teachers." — Goodspeed

Goodspeed understands her role as one of "accompanying" other teachers, Christian witness, and modeling a love of teaching when teaching in China can be very difficult. She is a member of Parkhill Congregational UCC, Denver, CO.

Darlene and Howard Goodrich, co-interim regional ministers of the Christian Church in Tennessee and then North



Carolina for the past two years, will serve a two-year term as theological tutors at Kgologano College, Gaborone, Botswana. Howard will also serve as southern Africa liaison for the Joint Ministry

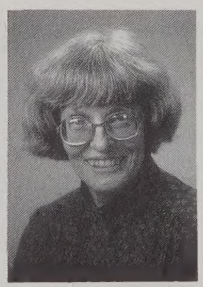
Goodrich: Putting "people before tasks, solidarity with neighbors before personal achievements. . . . "

in Africa. The Kgologano assignment is a theological education-by- extension program which serves students at remote villages who cannot travel to the college.

Howard said their prior service in Lesotho taught them to see U.S. church and society differently, to put "people before tasks, solidarity with neighbors before personal achievements and to see the parochialism of the U.S."

"The word of God must come from other places, where you learn and receive more than you give and then have more to offer your own society when you return," he said. Darlene put it simply by saying that means to live the Gospel with the people. The Goodriches maintain membership at Northwood Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN. Their assignment will begin Sept. 1.

Baker: "The people charge me up."

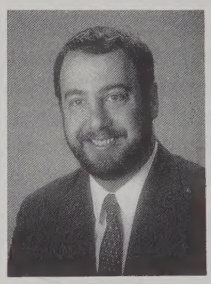


After nearly 30 years as a medical missionary serving the Association of Evangelical Institutions of Honduras (AIEH), **Dr. Joyce Baker** will return to San Pedro Sula Aug. 1 for another three-year term. "The people charge me up. They are wonderful, and they are still subject to sickness."

She considers vaccination programs one of the most important projects she's been involved with, along with nutrition education and family planning. Although churches have been invited to send work camp delegations for years, she said, "they've just started coming. Medical skills are easier to match. Those who want to build are sometimes more difficult; we don't know what we'll be building six months from now." She is a member of Bethel Congregational Church, Defiance, OH.

Joining Dr. Baker in her work with AIEH is **Afia Griffith**, who began a two-year term as a Global Mission Intern June 1. She is serving as a program assistant for AIEH's health clinics, which will include assisting volunteer groups who participate in health-related projects.

She said she is open to "learn what God has in mind" for her, expecting to grow as a person and in her faith, and eager to experience her faith with other people. She is a member of Ray of Hope Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Decatur, GA.

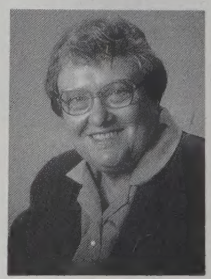


" . . . the visible symbols of the universal God." — Rohrer

James Rohrer, assigned to the Presbyterian Bible College by the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan, will begin a three-year term working with the college's lay training program Aug. 1. "In a divided world, God desires to break down dividing walls of hostility. We must become God's arms, feet, hands and hearts. We become the visible symbols of the universal God." Rohrer is a member of First Congregational UCC, Dubuque, IA.

After 18 years of service in Zaire, **Clela Anderson** will begin a two-year term as

". . . to listen and to learn." — Anderson



chaplain at Inanda Seminary in South Africa on Sept. 1. When she and her late husband first went out, she said, mission was seen as a one-way street, then a two-way street, and now as more circular. "We were trained under missionaries and trained nationals. Now we work under national leadership. Part of our role is to listen and to learn." A Disciples minister, she maintains membership at St. John UCC, Manchester, MO.

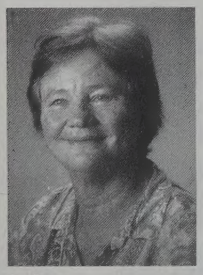
Aart and Carolyn Van Beek will begin a two-year term Sept. 1 as Church

(continued on next page)

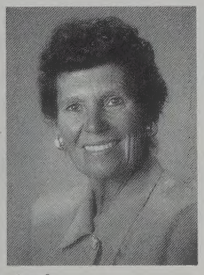
World Service and Witness (CWSW/NCCC) representatives for Indonesia and consultants to Jakarta Theological Seminary. They were jointly appointed by the Disciples, the UCC, the Presbyterian Church/USA and CWSW.

Aart sees his challenge as "responding to both a concern for health services and development of a master's program to allow pastors to be enablers in their communities." Carolyn's focus will be to facilitate community development and skill training for the poor and give the poor "a voice through empowerment."

To help doctors see themselves as servants is a desire of **Dr. Ines Sarli**, an Argentinian who began a three-year term as director of Friendship Mission in Paraguay. She believes a lot of infant and maternal fatality can be avoided through the Mission's health education program. She is a member of El Buen Pastor, Disciples of Christ, in Buenos Aires.



Sarli



Arndt

Another South-to-South position is held by **Elvira Arndt**, who is also an Argentine native. She returned for another three-year term as an International Associate with the United Evangelical Church of Ecuador in Quito on June 1, to continue her work in pastoral ministry and community development.

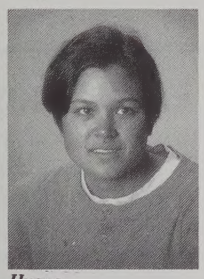
"Because the people have great opposition from the church of the state we cannot do our work openly, but we have still had 13 conversions—people who have changed their lives," she said. Arndt is a member of the Evangelical Congregational Church in Entre Rios, Argentina.

Kesanee Pinthong, a Thailand native, is an International Associate who began a three-year assignment Jan. 1 at the HELP Center, Asian Women's Shelter, in Tokyo, Japan. She was called to serve because of the increasing number of Thai women who seek help from the Center after being unwillingly involved in the entertainment business. She was also appointed by the United Church in Canada and some Japan church women's groups and other Japanese organizations.

Bethsaba and Dale Nafziger began a four-year term with the United Mission to Nepal (UMN) July 1. She works with UMN's health department in midwifery and nursing and Dale is an electrical engineer. They are appointed by the Disciples, the UCC, the Mennonite Board of Missions and the Mennonite Central Committee. A native of India, Bethsaba is a member of the Church of North India. Dale is a Mennonite.

Barbara L. Mueller was appointed for three more years with the Asian Rural

Mueller



Huang

Institute. She will return to Nishinasuno in November to assist with ecumenical and international relations. (See related story, page 2.) Barbara is a member of the United Church of Santa Fe, Santa Fe, NM.

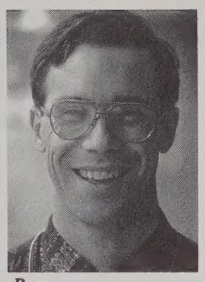
Retired long-term UCBWM missionaries to Japan **Martha and Richard Lammers** volunteered to handle Mueller's work while she is home.

Jenny Huang, who had experience in China as a result of participating in the China Fellowship Program of Pacific University, Forest Grove, OR, began two years as an English teacher July 1, with the Amity Foundation through the China Program of the NCCC.

She said one of the challenges is that American and Chinese education systems are very different. She was teaching English conversation to students who were accustomed to reading and memorizing, which was difficult for them. She feels her previous experience gave her both practical teaching skills and an education on being a foreigner. Huang is an associate member of the First Chinese Baptist Church, San Francisco, CA.

Also teaching English is **Delcie A. Palmer**, who began June 1 in the high school division of Kobe College, Nishinomiya, Japan. She loves young people, and looks forward to "being able to share the love of Jesus with them." Her church membership is with the Winthrop Street Baptist Church in Taunton, MA.

Palmer



Persons

Donald S. Persons received a four-year appointment which began July 1 with the Church of Christ in Thailand (CCT) in lay training and evangelism. From 1989-94 he served the CCT as a district congregational enabler.

Persons' understanding of mission today is "living out, copying the life of Jesus. As God sent Jesus, God is sending us." He maintains membership with South Church, UCC, Andover, MA, which he previously served as pastor.

A member of the United Church of Chapel Hill (UCC), Chapel Hill, NC, **Timothy Rose** is serving 10 months as a Global Mission Intern in Geneva, Switzerland, at the invitation of the World Student Christian Federation (WSCF). He is assisting in preparation for the WSCF General Assembly to be held Aug. 26 to Sept. 10 in the Ivory Coast. The Assembly will also celebrate the WSCF's 100th anniversary.

Retired UCBWM missionaries **Robin and Frances Markham** will volunteer at Jivana Jyoti, American College, Madurai, India, for six months beginning Sept. 1, to help with English and computer training for the physically challenged. They gave similar service in 1992, after 26 years as UCBWM staff in Angola, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Louis Eubank, long-time Disciples missionary who recently retired, was changed to volunteer status in February to continue his work in Thailand.

Recognized for 10 weeks of volunteer service were **Jennifer E. Dowdell** and **Karl Vogel**. Dowdell served with the Waldensian Center at Vallecrosia, Italy, while Vogel was assigned to the Agape Center in the Italian Alps, both at the request of the American Waldensian Society.

Four people were recognized for service as work camp participants with the NCCC/USA-Russia Ecumenical Work Camp, now through Aug. 19. They are **Taiwan Green, Sonia Lugo, Jason P. Ollison** and **Isabel M. Rodriguez.**

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Marquitos *(from page 9)*

expensive protein supplement. The women bake and sell bread for income generation. Satellite nutrition and feeding centers have also been established.

Along with generous giving to One Great Hour of Sharing, there are other important ways to address concerns about hunger. Send letters to major TV networks—especially CNN—to encourage them to assign at least one person as a full-time "development correspondent" to report on long-term overseas hunger and development issues, not just hunger crisis stories. CNN's address is: 1 CNN Center, P.O. Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348.

Disasters *(from page 4)*

continued aid for 1993 Midwest flooding

- $50,000, Missouri Conference UCC, continued aid for 1993 Midwest flooding
- $17,965, Southeast Conference UCC, balance of donations for flood relief
- **$3,000**, South Central Conference UCC, flooding in New Orleans

U.S., other disasters

- $61,451, Southern California Conference UCC, continued aid in response to the 1994 earthquake
- **$10,000**, Diocese of Monterey, CA, for Interfaith Disaster Recovery Network via the Santa Clara Association, Northern California/Nevada Conference UCC
- **$5,000**, Kansas/Oklahoma Conference UCC, assistance in Oklahoma Federal Building bombing
- $1,000, CWS, Oklahoma City Federal Building bombing

Hawaiian redress *(continued from page 1)*

of the complicity of the UCC in the illegal overthrow of the Hawaiian Monarchy in 1893. It is a matter of justice."

At the same time, history records that ABCFM-supported mission representatives in the country in 1893 apparently made no effort to dissuade the plotters of the overthrow, apparently also supporting the step toward annexation of Hawaii in 1898. The "missionary party," as the plotters were called by many indigenous Hawaiians, included in its membership many of the children and grandchildren of the original missionaries, and many of these were, in 1893, in major leadership positions in the church which had been established by the ABCFM mission.

An additional concern is that in 1863, the ABCFM—as it ended its formal mission in Hawaii—allowed those mission families who stayed to retain large land holdings, much of which had been ceded to the mission by the monarchy.

Queen Lili'oukalani was herself an active member of the Congregational Church, as was much of the indigenous Hawaiian population. Her comments after the overthrow express her dismay and disappointment that her church—both local and the ABCFM—made no effort to stop the overthrow or to dissuade those members who were among the instigators. Neither did the church minister to her during her years of house arrest.

Assumptions of cultural and racial superiority and alien economic misunderstanding led to the discounting or denigration of the strengths of the *na Kanaka Maoli*, their language, their spirituality and their respect for the land. The resulting social, political and economic implications of those harmful attitudes contributed to their suffering from that time into the present.

A 1991 General Synod resolution affirmed self-governance of indigenous Hawaiians and called for the Office of the President of the UCC to offer an apology on behalf of the UCC for its "historical complicities" in the unlawful overthrow of the monarchy. It also called for initiation of a process of reconciliation between the UCC and indigenous Hawaiians.

Since that time a task force has been meeting. It comprises a majority of *na Kanaka Maoli* (all UCC members); persons from other ethnic communities who are also members of local UCC churches in Hawaii; representatives from agencies of the national setting (Nozomi Ikuta of UCBHM, Charles McCollough of OCIS, Bertrice Wood of UCBWM, and Ken Iha as liaison from the President's office); Kimo Merseberg, association minister of the newly formed Association of Hawaii Evangelical Churches (indigenous Hawaiian local congregations); Kaleo Patterson, a UCC pastor who works closely with grassroots groups in the native Hawaiian community; and Hawaii Conference Minister Norman Jackson as liaison from the Conference.

Porter designs cover

The logo used on the cover of *In Mission, Calendar of Prayer for the United Church of Christ for 1995-96*, was designed by Phil Porter of Phil Porter Studios, Oakland, CA, who is a member of the First Congregational Church of Berkeley, CA. The design was initially created for General Synod 20.